

LOCAL I-S NEWS

for department store workers

Vol. XI, No. 20

DECEMBER 1, 1960

N.Y.C. AUTOMATION CONFERENCE URGES AID TO DISPLACED WORKERS, SHARING OF PROFITS

Macy Profits Hit New Peak; Net Rises to 7% in Quarter

During the first quarter of the current fiscal year, R.H. Macy & Co. achieved a 5.4 per cent sales increase, thus continuing its upward surge of the past year in sales and profits.

In his remarks to stockholders on Nov. 15, Board Chairman Jack Straus noted that R.H. Macy capital outlay would continue in 1961 at about the same levels—\$12 to \$13 millions a year, although there might be some decline.

The sales for this quarterly period were described as a record. Earnings of the parent corporation of Macy's in New York were increased to 7 per cent. Preliminary earnings figures, after taxes, were pegged at \$2,525,000 compared with \$2,360,000 for the same period last year.

The New York division, most of whose members are represented by Local I-S contributed most heavily to the R.H. Macy record profits, with Bamberger's and its branches also contributing substantially.

Mr. Straus indicated, however, that during the decade ahead the

demand for goods would continue to rise under the pressure of increased population and households.

Citing rising costs, mainly of labor, the corporation's board chairman stressed the management's interest in sales growth and investment in new plant and equipment.

One significant example of this pattern of Macy expansion is a projected Macy store in New Rochelle. The suburban branch, which is expected to be ready in 1963, is planned as a 265,000-square-foot store, with plans for an additional 100,000 square feet.

Further air conditioning is Herald Square is not contemplated, he said, asserting that it is too expensive.

In the meanwhile, "Women's Wear," retail trade daily, reports that Macy's New York is getting a larger share of total metropolitan business than it did four years ago, particularly in apparel. The effort by management to create "a right fashion image for the store" was credited with the gain.

New York AFL-CIO unions have taken a hard look at the problem of automation and have agreed on a program of action to aid the workers it displaces and to assure a wide sharing of its benefits.



Worth Talking About

BY PRESIDENT SAM KOVENETSKY

The recent conference on automation, sponsored by the N. Y. C. Central Labor Council, was a milestone in several respects.

It enabled union leaders from a great diversity of trades and industries to come together, and learn, and exchange opinions and experiences on the meaning of automation, and its effects upon jobs, productivity and security, as well as its general impact on the economy as a whole.

A great many ideas were presented, as you can infer from the news story on Page 1.

Differences Among Industries

Yet it may interest you that despite the many problems which all workers share as new machinery threatens their livelihood, there are also many differences—from industry to industry, even from one plant or retail chain to another.

To begin with, I see automation in the department store industry in a somewhat larger context. This is the over-all pattern of increased productivity systems, some of which involve true, automated machines, or gradually involve a variety of different machines, or represent a reorganization of work such as self-service or re-scheduling of work programs to increase the number of part-timers, and even the transfer of work to the consumer.

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The program was defined at a day-long conference on the subject, "Unions Meet Automation," attended by 250 union leaders on Nov. 29.

Charging that too many employers neglect "human values" in their drive to increase profits, the unionists listed safeguards for workers which the unions can try to write into contracts through collective bargaining. These safeguards included shortening of the work week, gradual timing of innovations with ample advance notice, re-training programs, seniority and job placement provisions, and severance pay and other benefits for workers displaced.

The unionists accused American business of stagnating in the face of challenge and opportunity, and called for an imaginative common effort by industry, government and labor.

The conference was sponsored by the Shorter Work Week Committee of the N. Y. C. Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Council Pres. Harry Van Arsdale, Harold Hanover, president of the New York State AFL-CIO, and other speakers appraised the national problem of automation. They described it as a "new industrial revolution" involving the introduction of complex machines that perform mental as well as manual operations.

Pres.-elect John F. Kennedy sent a telegram to the conference declaring, "Automation can represent hope rather than despair, and can increase living standards rather than unemployment. But it will require the ability to adapt to the necessary changes and a high degree of statesmanship. A meeting such as yours can make important contributions to the solution of the problems automation raises."

General agreement on three main points was reached by the conference speakers:

- Automation will lead to benefits for the many and not to depression only if the American economy expands at a faster rate, with greatly reduced unemployment and an increase in purchasing power.

- Government, as well as industry and labor, has a greater role to play. Federal legislation should shorten the work week in the Fair Labor Standards Act, set improved national standards for unemployment compensation, finance a public works program, set training programs in motion,

(Continued on page 2)

Atkinson Describes Blood Bank On Red Cross Radio Program



Vice Pres. Bill Atkinson (right) was joined by Anita Posselt, of the American Red Cross, and Lawrence Kickham, Red Cross Publicity Director, at a WNYC broadcast on Blood Bank Programs in New York.

Thomas Cullen, of the Knights of Columbus, also appeared on the radio program.

Introducing Vice Pres. Atkinson, Miss Posselt noted that Local I-S conducted an "enormously successful Blood program." He explained the basic workings of a

blood bank, and some of the elements which make for a continually effective program.

"Organization, imagination and personal contact" were cited by him as these key elements.

Some 33,000 persons are protected by the Local I-S—Macy's Blood Bank, since blood is made available without charge not only to Union members, and others, but to members of their families.

Two-thirds of the blood donated by Local I-S members, Vice Pres.

(Continued on page 2)

Negotiating Committee Begins Work

The Local I-S Negotiating Committee has scheduled a series of meetings to review and consolidate proposals to be demanded in the next Union contract.

The series of work sessions will be arranged so that final recommendations by the Negotiating Committee can be made at the membership meeting on Jan. 10, 1961, in order to obtain full authorization to proceed.

A special sub-committee, working with the Union officers and administrators, will examine every suggested contractual demand made by members, shop stewards and Executive Board members.

This phase of their work will supplement the ongoing scrutiny of such proposals which the officers have been making for the past month.

The plans were completed at the first meeting of the

Negotiating Committee held at the Union Headquarters on Nov. 23. This committee consists of division chairmen from every section of Herald Square and the branch areas.

During the course of the Nov. 23 meeting, which was marked by extensive discussion and varied proposals to be included in the Union's demands, the new committee members received a capsule review of the techniques, timing and human factors which go into labor-management talks for a new contract.

Pres. Sam Kovenetsky, Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein and Bill Atkinson, and Union Attorney Asher Schwartz participated in the briefing session on techniques and perspectives through which gains can be won for Local I-S members at the collective bargaining table.

Automation Meeting Urges Safeguards, Eco. Growth

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and launch detailed surveys of the effects of automation.

• Labor must help itself and the entire nation. It must push its historic task of increasing the purchasing power of the people. It must prod industry to show more initiative, and it must act politically to encourage the government to do its part; it must mobilize its strength in defense of workers threatened with technological unemployment.

Representatives of N. Y. C. unions cited many examples of members who had lost jobs because of the new technology.

"Not only is American prestige slipping abroad but U. S. business is failing at home," according to Solomon Barkin, Textile Workers research director. Labor, he said, knows from its daily contacts with employers that they have come up with no valid answers to the challenge of automation and economic growth. "This is a period when we have to change things," he declared. "We have elected Kennedy to the White House to do things. But the battle lies ahead. We have to generate enough concern and alarm to win action."

Mr. Hanover called for strengthening unemployment compensation and other social insurance, expansion of retraining and job placement services, and real implementation of the Federal Full Employment Act of 1946 to assure more jobs and increased consumer purchasing power. Unless counter-measures are adopted, he warned, automation will lead our economy down the road to more frequent, deeper recessions.

Mr. Van Arsdale dwelt on the need to alert and arouse the rank and file and leadership of all unions. Labor, he said, cannot approach automation "in a routine manner" but must mobilize itself to direct the turn of events.

Leonard Woodcock, United Automobile Workers vice president, cited evidence that business has been investing most of its capital in modernization rather than expansion. This trend must be reversed if automation is to mean prosperity and not depression. "We are in a race with social disaster," he said.

Automation is bound to reduce the relative strength of blue-collar workers in the economy, making urgent a tremendous union effort to organize professional, technical and clerical workers now largely outside the ranks of labor, Mr. Woodcock said. He urged that labor campaign for shorter hours, expanded social security and payment to all workers on a salary basis.

Irving Beller, Machinists' research director, said that industry ideas on the automation problem are as barren as its hostile stand to the economics of the New Deal. Labor must be as militant now in behalf of growth as it was then, he said, and cited the depressed areas of West Virginia, "where relief has become a way of life" as an example of what is in store for the American people unless effective action is taken.

Chairman of the conference was David Sullivan, Building Service Employees president. Other speakers included James L. O'Hara, secretary of the New York Hotel Trades Council; Thomas Carey, secretary-treasurer of the N. Y. District Council, IAM and Walter Sheerin.

Jamaica News

Hi folks. Back with more news and gossip. Congratulations to our new grandmothers, Catherine Sullivan, June McCandlers, and Anna Nering. . . . J 10 gave a farewell party at Harmony Cafe for Lola Meidinger who is retiring. We will all miss her. . . . New toy sponsors for Xmas: Mildred Washington, Marion Robinson and Bessie Parham. . . . Susan Reilly and Jeanette La Zarus happily announced their daughters' engagements Thanksgiving Day. Another wedding to soon take place, Barbara Walther. We will all hate to see her leave. Paula Olivets parents celebrated their 50th anniversary. . . . Harry V. Brown transferred to Men's Suits. Speedy recovery to Selma Goldstein's husband who suffered a second heart attack. . . . Happy to see so many of our sick back to work. But the list is still too long. Roselli Colgan, Michael Ciacio, Edward McCabe, Edna Dimas, Edna Neremberg, Mark Gallagher, Constance Sfarazza, John Grandel, Josephine Wolfer, Lillian Woodward, Catharine Morgan and Joe Frans. Please hurry and get well. . . . If you have any news don't forget to see me. . . . Until next month—

MELANIE HARMON

White Plains News

Our deepest sympathy to Carol Kern Coughlin on the loss of her father-in-law. Carol, who is one of the experienced people in our Cosmetic Dept., wed this past September. While no mention was made of her wedding bells, we shared her joy and now her sorrow. Put up your chin, Carol! Better days are still coming. . . . A warm welcome to three new comers not to Macy's, but to this great big world of ours. Twins have joined the family of Mrs. Helen Boyle who is a veteran among Local 1-S members. Helen who was away for some time, has just returned with a little more ambition. . . . The third lucky one is the baby boy born to John Andres, employed in our Furniture Dept. Congratulations to the lucky parents and to the new comers. . . . Missed and happily back to their posts are Mrs. Virginia Filice of the Small Appliances Dept., and Harold Green of our T. V. Dept. Both were kept away during a temporary illness. We wish them a speedy recovery. . . . The Christmas rush is approaching. Let's keep in good shape and in high spirit, and make sure that our standards and conditions are kept up to par.

FRANK E. MORAVSKY



NEW YORK TRADE UNIONISTS met recently to discuss the plans of the Four Freedoms Hotels project to provide permanent hotel facilities for retired union members. That's Pres. Sam Kovenetsky behind poster. With him left to right, are: Milton Rosenberg, Textile Workers; Charles Feinstein, Leather Goods Workers; Jerry Wurf, Public Employees; Ben Cohan, Office Employees; Joseph Decker, Delicatessen Workers; Peter Crescenti, Hotel Workers; and an unidentified gentlemen.

Executive Board Approves New Negotiating Committee

The Local 1-S Executive Board has approved the formation of a negotiating sub-committee to prepare for forthcoming negotiations for a new Union contract.

The action was taken at a regular Board meeting on Nov. 29, 1960. Vice Pres. Phil Hoffstein presided as board chairman.

The Union vice president reported that the first meeting of the Negotiating Committee had been held. A committee of five had been appointed to review the present contract with an eye to needed improvements, and also to consider suggestions from members, shop stewards and others for such improvements.

The Executive Board approved the negotiating sub-committee which consists of Dick Tausz, Receiving chairman; Dorothea Andrews, 8th Floor chairman; Tony La Salvia, Jamaica chairman; Charles De George, Advertising and Bureau of Standards chairman; and Jack Steinman, 1st Floor chairman.

A strike strategy committee, including numerous sub-committees, was designated in the event an agreement is not reached amiably during negotiations.

Following the unanimous approval of the plan, Vice Pres. Hoffstein added that the support of several major international unions in this area would be available to Local 1-S if the members were forced out on strike.

"We certainly hope to have a friendly meeting of minds during negotiations," Vice Pres. Hoffstein declared. "But we will have added strength to represent our members if we are prepared for all eventualities."

Ed Dillard, Receiving, reported on the general satisfaction in the labor movement with the election of Kennedy, and its feeling that trade union registration drives had contributed crucially to this victory.

He noted specifically the activities of the Queens County Labor Committee, of which Pres. Sam Kovenetsky is chairman. With the latter offering supplementary remarks, it became clear that the labor community group had secured wide union representation in county political action.

Pres. Kovenetsky noted that the local labor group had helped Cong. Joseph P. Addabbo, a liberal Democrat, achieve victory. The group had also supported Alfred D. Lerner, a liberal Republican, for State Assembly. Lerner was elected.

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at the
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Every Wednesday
From 5:30 to 7:00 P.M.

The Queens labor group is interested in supporting liberal political candidates, regardless of party label.

Pres. Kovenetsky noted that several Local 1-S Executive Board members and union members had helped the Queens labor group, which also involved people from the Hotel union, Butchers and Furriers, IUE, Maintenance, Transport Workers, Leather Goods and many other unions.

He mentioned plans to enlarge the group to continue to act effectively on local, as well as state and national issues.

Pres. Kovenetsky cited two critical political issues which would affect Local 1-S'ers directly and indirectly: the \$1.25 minimum wage bill, with retail industry coverage; and a Forand-type bill providing medical care for the aged, under Social Security.

"Let's tell our Congressional representatives that our votes really counted," he urged.

Activities

Jerry Harte, Boys' Clothing, reported for the Activities Committee. He updated the Board on the tours being developed to visit Europe-Israel and Mexico this Summer. Those interested are advised to forward their \$100 deposits in order to definitely secure their reservations.

The Union has arranged a theatre party to see "Exodus," a long-awaited film dramatizing the hopes and aspiration of the refugees and pioneers in Israel. Tickets are \$2.50 for the performance which will be held May 19, 1961.

Pres. Kovenetsky proposed, and the Board approved, a Union investment of \$4,000 in Four Freedoms Hotels, Inc., a project to provide economical hotel living for retired Union members. The non-profit project, in which the National Maritime Union, Mold-

ers and American Radio Association have already invested heavily, and in which many large international unions are interested, will begin operating a hotel in Miami Beach about the turn of the year, and has plans to open others in Brooklyn, San Francisco and Dallas. The investment will pay 4 1/2 per cent interest.

The Board approved a schedule of improvements in the pay and retirement benefit of the Local 1-S president and vice president. The salary boosts would be \$25 a week for the president, and \$15 a week for the vice presidents. The retirement boost amounts to an additional 6 per cent of salary. The Board-approved pay increase is subject, under the Union constitution, to ratification at the next membership meeting on Jan. 11, 1961.

Automation Conference

Vice Pres. Hoffstein reported on an all-day conference on automation sponsored by the N. Y. Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO. He cited the revolutionary impact, sometimes resulting in social catastrophe, of the new machines and work systems. Pres. Kovenetsky added that "we are developing new ideas to meet these problems." Some of these ideas may cause people to raise their eyebrows, he commented, but fresh new thinking is necessary to meet new problems. We will certainly want to give thought to this whole question, and its impact on our members.

A list of people who had been suspended for delinquency in paying Union assessments was discussed by the Board. It was decided to suspend the delinquents for a second period of six months with the provision that they may make themselves whole at any time during this period.

Suspended Members

The suspended members are: R. Carney, 68-942; Theodore Clark, RRKE-11; Vivian Cokorinos, BTO-27; Leon Engel, 8-909; Joseph Fava, RRST-10; P. Gonet, 941-55; Charles Guglielmo, NWI-4; Amie Hines, CDG-12; Thomas Jacob, 8-908; Angelina Icat, BTC-1; and Veronica Keon, BCT-10.

Also Rosalind McKnight, CDA-2; Madeline McGowan, C-255; Geraldine Mcaughlin, CDG-28; Antoinette Milazzo, BRO-50; Marilyn Morgan; McRay Penn, 258-13K; Shirley Powell, CDQ-4; Mary Savaia, CDG-2152; Frank Shaw, 38-17; Mattie Walker, 21A-315 MAF; Clyde White, RRSE-24; Margaret Wilson, CDG-31; and Susan McKenzie, 117-51.

There was discussion and debate on all items of business before the Board.

Blood Bank Described By Vice Pres. Atkinson

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Atkinson explained, is credited to the blood bank. One-third provides blood for life or death emergencies, national defense, as needed, and for indigent patients in city hospitals. This policy applies to all blood bank groups in New York.

There are some 1500 blood programs in New York covering 3,000,000 people.

Vice Pres. Atkinson also served as the representative of the New York City AFL-CIO on the Community Blood Council in this city.

President's Column

(Continued from page 1)

Displacement of Workers

In these various cases, the test of my definition is the displacement of sizeable numbers of workers; in most cases, involving added emphasis on lower categories of skills and wages.

Automation, as it is usually conceived, has been largely discussed from the viewpoint of production and manufacturing. Retailing, as one of the distributive trades, is concerned as well with high productivity—low manpower work systems in office work, in sales and the handling of merchandise. And we are concerned because we have had ample experience with them.

Local 1-S Experience

Many of the major retailing establishments have installed data processing centers; here in Macy's we have had Univac for some years; and now the NCR Model 304, 20-machine installation is being tested. We have seen the impact of other, smaller office machines and work procedures. We have seen self-service systems tried out, automatic vending machines tested, conveyors installed in Receiving, and a work-saving, job-cutting PBX board. We have seen a price put on delivery, wrapping and returns, so that the consumer will do the work, and payroll costs cut.

In some of these systems, such as self-service, we see automation as a concept of merchandising. Indeed, in retailing we see the consumer being automated.

The consumer is subjected to pre-tested advertising based on principles of sub-conscious motivation and psychological conditioning. He purchases increasingly standardized products in an increasingly depersonalized store. If automation in manufacturing industries means, in essence, self-controlling production, then automation in retailing means self-controlling office procedures, selling and material processing. Moreover, in sales, automation involves "putting the workload" on the consumer and restricting his intelligent choice, and perhaps using vending machines.

The Personal Problem

These, then, are some of the general ramifications. The practical problems which result are many. In the short run, workers are displaced from their jobs. It is no consolation to the worker that, in the long run, other jobs may be created. In the short run, people have to eat. And they want to defend their livelihood, the protection afforded by seniority, the way of industrial life provided by unionism, and the personal habits and friendships of many years.

Question of Hours

What is to be done, especially in the department store industry? Let me begin in a negative way. I think the goal of shorter hours is only one of the ways to meet this particular problem in department stores. In retailing, we are not dealing with a fairly fixed group of workers, using a particular group of skills or body of knowledge. Shorter hours might well be primary answer for Machinists or building trades workers who help administer apprenticeship training programs, and can control the influx of new workers.

In retailing, skills are more diverse and labor turnover high. In particular, youngsters and housewives, moonlighters and others are constantly available to adjust to management programs for part-time workers. Retail managements are happy to have the flexibility, from their point of view, of fractional workers.

Neither is severance pay the answer, although it certainly can help the worker with longer seniority bridge the financial gap. But, after all, severance pay certainly does not compensate for the period of unemployment and adjustment which following the technological lay-off, especially of the worker along in years.

Principles for Solution

The basic principles on which we in the department store industry must base our response to automation and related work systems are (1) guaranteed, continued employment of each worker affected, (2) agreement that the workers shall share in the benefits of cost-saving, profit-making technological changes, (3) no reduction in the skill and salary classifications of machine-created jobs, (4) absolute priority for the displaced worker in all jobs for which he may be qualified, (5) a complete program of re-training, transfer in grade or above; in no case reducing the regular income of the worker, (6) periodical review by labor and management of the effectiveness of this "automation re-integration program."

All these can be applied in a practical, constructive way if labor and management can arrive at basic, common understandings.

On the whole, I think we have been able to reach workable arrangements with Macy's when automation problems have arisen. I am hopeful that we can continue to work well together. We who work in Macy's and similar giant retail operations should expect no less. The industry is expanding; rationally, it should want to keep its experienced workers.

But since department store executive do not always act as reason might anticipate, alternative sources of action will have to be explored.

Proposes Retail Conference

I plan to propose to all interested labor groups that all retail unions in this area schedule their own special conference, so that we can, to our mutual interest—explore the particular problems of our industry. I think the Mayor should be invited to this conference, and perhaps the Governor as well. Certainly they must be aware of the extent to which New York City is a low wage, white collar center; and they must be further aware that our rate of unemployment is one of the highest in the country for large cities.

Through such conferences, we can perhaps develop additional ways to meet some of the accelerating problems of automation. They might also provide the basis for further conferences, including managements and political leaders, since certainly the problem involves not only our industry, but the public interest as well.

Letters to the Editor

From AFL-CIO Official

Your union seems to be one of the model organizations shown to labor delegates from overseas. Brother Kovenetsky's interest gets high praise from all of the overseas trade unionists whom I have met.

MAIDA SPRINGER
International Representative
International Affairs
Dept., AFL-CIO

From Union Teachers

(N. Y.) UNITED FEDERATION OF
TEACHERS, AFT, AFL-CIO

Thanks so much for sending us a copy of your wonderful editorial. We will reprint excerpts in our own paper.

CHARLES COGEN
President
SAMUEL HOCHBERG
Deputy President

Protection

Never in my life I have worked under the protection of such a wonderful group of people like Local 1-S.

You have been very kind and considerate to me. For this I am very grateful, and I pray to God that Local 1-S keeps on doing such a magnificent job.

Thank you ever so much and may God bless you all.

JUAN ROSARIO
RRKV-1139

Appreciation

I wish to thank you for expressing your sympathy on the great loss of my brother. Since then I also lost my sister-in-law, less than two weeks apart, so you can see what a great loss we had in such a short time.

I hope you will print this letter in the newspaper to express my thanks to all the girls of Dept. 533 and 544 for the cards they sent me, and also a donation for trees in Israel which are being planted in my brother's name at the clinic he helped build.

It is very nice to know that one has friends both in happiness and in sorrow. I hope I wouldn't have any more sorrow for how much can one take.

FANNIE GELMAN
533-31

Prompt Action

Many thanks for your considerate and prompt action on compensation for illness. It is good to know that the individual and his needs are important and not just a number on a printed form.

Members of Local 1-S are fortunate indeed, not only to be one of a group such as this, but an individual who with pride in one's organization may hold his head high and walk with dignity.

ADELE MACKIE
WPU-03

Remembered

I just want to say again how grateful I was to have the protection of the Health Plan during my recent illness. According to the doctor's orders I am still out on disability, but hope to return soon, when I will be most happy to see my friends after all this time.

Also I wish to extend many thanks to the Social Service Committee for the lovely perfume and card received. It made me feel very good to be remembered that way.

ELIZABETH PALM
16-11

**PLEASE TELL US
WHEN YOU MOVE**

Health Plan

Once again I want to express my appreciation for our Health Plan. This time for a minor operation performed by one of the Union-recommended physicians. He is an excellent doctor, and most kind and considerate.

VICTORIA RAFFE
945-50

Wishes Us Success

I retired from Macy's after seventeen years of service and, to my astonishment, I still receive the Local 1-S newspaper which I dearly love and find so informative.

Enclosed please find \$1.00. I don't know whether I'm supposed to pay for it or not, but the Union always was so very good to me that I don't mind paying the \$1.00 as long as my husband is working.

I wish Local 1-S continued success and hope it steadily keeps working for the betterment of all Macy's employees.

MARIE SPRAGUE

Fraternal Spirit

I would like to express my thanks to all the members of Local 1-S who were kind enough to inquire as to my health in my recent illness, especially to Brother Bill Atkinson for his deep and genuine concern in obtaining a speedy appointment with a doctor of the Union Panel for me.

Although I am sure the Health Plan personnel would have done the same, the fact remains that here is an officer of the Union, with many problems to cope with, going out of his way for a brother Union member.

I would also like to thank Abe Vilensky, 123 Dept., who was so helpful in time of need, when he took me home upon my becoming ill.

I can't express enough my heartfelt thanks to them, and the feeling it is to me to belong to a wonderful Union like Local 1-S.

TOMMY NUZZO
123-352

Union Wins Withdrawal Of Job Reviews in #113

Local 1-S has succeeded in winning the reversal of a number of unfavorable job reviews in Dept. 113, Men's Sportswear, after six months of work on the problem.

The issue of the unjustified, poor reviews was brought to the attention of Union Administrator John Tercy who made a considerable investigation of the cases, and then proceeded to Macy's Labor Relations to seek a remedy.

Later, a review of the facts

added further information and the matter was turned over to Vice Pres. Bill Atkinson who spoke to Mrs. G. G. Michelson, manager of Labor Relations, about the long-pending question.

The Union was finally successful in its six-month-long efforts, and the members affected have been restored to their former job review level.

This example of successful action, commented Vice Pres. Atkinson, was made possible by the prompt action of the Local 1-S members concerned in bringing the problems to the attention of the Union.

Smells, Drafts... But No Engineers

With winter here, the problem of drafts, colds and sniffles has returned for those 1-S'ers who work near the exits.

When customers use the emergency doors, instead of the swinging doors, sw-oo-sh! in comes the winter wind and, therefore, continued requests to block the drafts with some kind of barrier.

The trouble is getting the maintenance engineers to get around to this problem. It'll be done, the sales clerks are reassured, when the engineers get around to it. The problem is *when*.

Similarly, with the cooking odors in the Book Department, coming from the Dutch Treat cafeteria. This is a matter of ventilation. Shouldn't be that hard to fix. But still the answer is, as soon as the engineers can get to it!

One management explanation is that Macy's has a new Chief Engineer who still has to get used to the ropes. In the meantime, the drafts and odors go on.

Sears Roebuck Boycott Begins in Westchester

The nationwide boycott of Sears Roebuck for its anti-labor activities is being advanced locally by the Westchester AFL-CIO Central Labor Body.

The national chain launched a deliberate effort in San Francisco to break several local unions, particularly a Retail Clerks local whose members respected a picket line set up by striking Machinists. Sears wiped out the livelihood of 262 San Francisco unionists. Union efforts to make use of arbitration and court decisions have failed to make the giant corporation change its mind. Sears has long bitterly opposed unionization of its facilities and outlets.

"We urge every fair-minded citizen to join us in refusing to shop at Sears until (the company's) unfair and inhuman policies are changed to fit America's tradition of fair play," the Westchester labor group declared.

LOCAL 1-S NEWS

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2nd Vice Pres.: William Atkinson

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Pres.-Elect Kennedy Praises Labor Press for Coverage

Pres.-elect John F. Kennedy has thanked the nation's labor press for having brought understanding of the significant election issues "to millions of union members."

In a telegram to the Intl. Labor Press Association convention in Detroit Kennedy declared:

"Please extend to the officers and members of the AFL-CIO Intl. Labor Press Association my deep gratitude for the unprecedented support which the labor press gave to the Kennedy-Johnson ticket during the campaign."

"I have had the opportunity of reviewing a number of union publications and I am convinced that the astute handling of the election issues brought new understanding of their great significance to millions of union members across the land. This could, in an important measure, explain the success of trade union political action this year."

"Victory at the polls, however, means that our job is really just starting. The complexity of the problems which we face in the 1960's and our attempts to meet them will require a high degree of public understanding and public support. To this end I look to the labor press as an essential medium of education."

"The labor press has carved an impressive niche in its long tradition this year. Individually, as labor editors, I extend to you a warm salute and a heart-felt thank you for an excellent job."

In many cases the labor press is dealing "more effectively" with the great questions of the day than does the daily press, the Michigan University Journalism Dept. observed in announcing results of the annual ILPA Journalistic Awards Contest.

Prof. Ben Yablonsky, a member of the department's staff, declared:

"I have been greatly impressed with the professional quality of the publications. They are generally fine looking jobs, using attractive formats, well edited and well written, indicating the publications are relying more and more on professional journalists."

"The publications, too, display a sense of responsibility to the entire community in dealing with questions which go beyond the primary problems of the individual union—questions of war and peace, of unemployment and high prices, of health and old age—questions which are the concern of all Americans, not just those of union members."

"And in many cases the publications deal more effectively with such big questions than the daily newspapers which ought to do a better job considering their great advantage in money and manpower."

Among international union publications, the RWDSU Record and the Electrical Workers' Journal were singled out for their editorial excellence.

Foreign Unionists Asked to Curb Low-Wage Exports

Top American labor leaders have told their counterparts in foreign countries that cut-rate exports based on low wages must be controlled, it has been reported by Arnold Beichman, "AFL-CIO News" correspondent at the United Nations. Writing for the N. Y. State Labor Department's monthly magazine, "Industrial Bulletin," he reports that American labor leaders issued the advice at a recent meeting of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

Mr. Beichman says that American labor is becoming increasingly concerned over the great number of imports coming into this country from areas of the world which fail to meet wage standards of those in the United States.

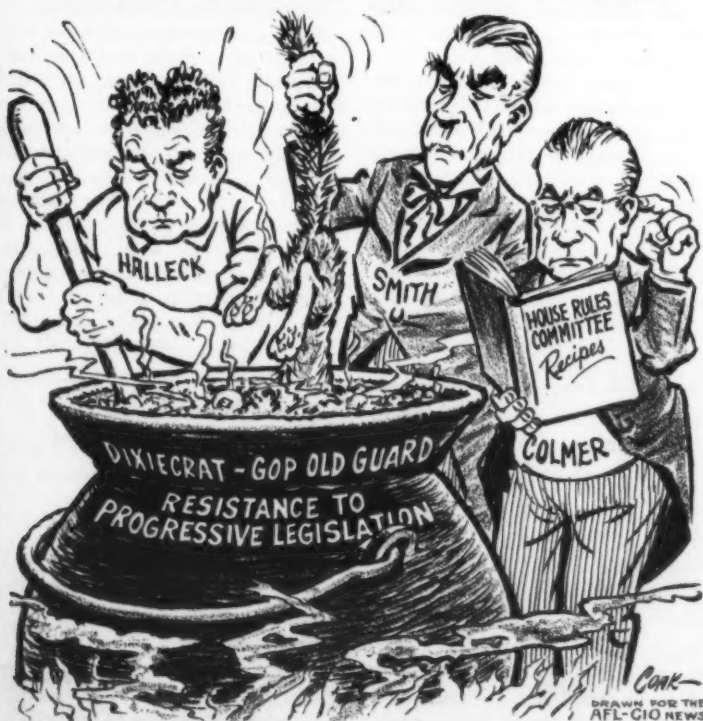
The labor reporter compiled comments by Jacob S. Potofsky, Amalgamated Clothing Workers; David Dubinsky, Ladies' Garment Workers; and Paul Jennings, Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers.



If you . . .
your husband
or wife . . .
or children
under 19 . . .
or parents (if you're single)

**NEED BLOOD
FROM THE BLOOD BANK**
all you have to do is
CALL WA 4-4540
LOCAL 1-S
Will Do the Rest

'Bubble, Bubble, Toil and Trouble'



Official Notice:

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

34TH ST. AREA

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 11

MANHATTAN CENTER

at 7:00 P.M.

34th Street & 8th Avenue

A R E A S

White Plains

Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 6:30 P.M. VFW

Parkchester

Wednesday, Jan. 18 at 6:30 P.M. Chester House

Flatbush

Wednesday, Jan. 18 at 6:30 P.M. Rivoli

Jamaica

Wednesday, Jan. 18 at 6:30 P.M. American Legion Hall

\$2 Assessment to the Social Services Fund for Unexcused Absence

Admission by 1960 Union Card Only

Member Receives Back Pay After Transfer Error

When a Union member is transferred, he should check to make sure that his salary is correct. This moral was made clear by a recent case.

In January of this year, Nettie Albert was reduced to Dept. 92. On Feb. 1, a Union-won general wage increase went into effect, and on the same day, Sister Albert was promoted to Dept. 71. From Feb. 1 to Aug. 8, 1960 she remained in this department. Then, she went back to Dept. 129, under her recall rights, instead of being reduced.

On this occasion her salary went back to her original salary, before the general wage increase. In brief, her salary was \$2 a week less than it should have been.

The matter was taken up by Union Administrator Charles Boyd, and it was rectified.

Sister Albert was fortunate in this particular case. In others, Macy's can withhold adjustments under the 60-day retroactivity clause, and a person would have no basis for obtaining money owed because of a clerical error. Other time, check your salary.

N.Y. Labor Leader Asks Required Schooling to 18

Pres. Harold C. Hanover of the New York State AFL-CIO has urged adoption of a national standard raising the compulsory school attendance age to 18.

Hanover, addressing a conference of high school principals, said the demands of the "automation-atomic age" will require more preparation—both in learning of new skills needed in industry and in understanding the new political development around the world.

"To permit school drop-outs so children can take jobs too often is to condemn them to a lifetime of unskilled work with no future, low earning power and declining security," he asserted.

Credit for Pictures

Local 1-S thanks go to Burton Berinsky, ILGWU photographer, the Hamilton Wright Organization and the Israeli Government Tourist Bureau for pictures which were used in "Local 1-S NEWS."

Want to Send a Kid to Camp? You Can Get Applications Now

Would you like to send your youngsters, age 7 to 12, to camp for two weeks this Summer?

If you do, NOW is the time to file an application with the Summer Camp Program sponsored by the New York AFL-CIO Community Services Committees. Pres. Sam Kovenetsky is chairman of the committee which administers the program.

Applications for Local 1-S members are readily available at the Union Office, and should be completed and filed by March 1, 1961. However, the sooner the applications are received the sooner they can be processed.

Come down to the Union Office, and consult the Administrator on duty today!

PERSONALS

WANTED—Large crib. Must be reasonable. Call UL 6-1790 after 6:00 P.M.

FOR SALE—Two (2) choice plots in Linden Hill Cemetery of Central Synagogue. Choice location "in the gate," and easy to reach. Call LO 8-9211.

HEALTH PLAN NOTE

If you plan to take a leave of absence (including maternity and military leave), or if you leave the store and wish to continue the Health Plan, you are covered only until the end of the month in which you leave the store, and have another 30 days (without coverage) in which to arrange for your direct payments. YOU MUST see or call the Local 1-S Health Consultant at the Union office.

If you, or a member of your family covered by the Health Plan, enters the hospital or has medical care covered by the Health Plan, you MUST call on the Union office for a claim form for your doctor immediately. Forms must be filled out and returned to the Union office as soon as possible.

MEDICAL PLAN—For the name and address of the doctor, dentist, optometrist or podiatrist nearest you CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540 or Associated Physicians Medical Group—BU 8-4210 (Night or Day) when the Union Office is closed. Complete schedule of fees available upon request.

Full information on benefits and regulations can be obtained from the health plan consultant at the union. Members are also asked to remind their doctors that all claim forms must be returned to the Local 1-S office.

BLOOD BANK—If you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540.

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